

**Mecklenburg County
Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Regular Meeting
February 27th , 2020**

Members Present: Ashley Murrell, Tomika Moore, Dr. Keith Cradle, Tysha Shaw, Sonya Harper, Kendra King, Kevin Poirier, Jessica Davis, Russell Price, Lt. Gene Lim, Commissioner Pat Cotham, Leigh Altman

Staff Present: Scott Stoker, Elizabeth Swann

Guests Present: Shavonda McClure-Tresports, Pamela Alzubeidy- YDI Inc., Daphne Smith- Smith School of Science, Gwen Harris- The Facts Initiative, Alma Moore-DASH Connections, Angela Reid- DASH Connections ,Cara Evans-Patterson-CMPD Youth Diversion, Glenn Smith-Life Connections-DASH, Becky Smith-Thompson Child & Family Focus, Quentin Snead-DASH, Lucille Puckett, Catie Clark- CJS-Research & Planning, Savita Iyer-CJS, Research & Planning, Tiffany Bridges- Thompson Child &Family Focus, Amber Watlington-CMPD Diversion, Travis Irving-CMPD Diversion, Darryl Sturdivant-Team Up Connections, LaShawn Barnes- Child & Family Focus, Ravon Barnes-Child & Family Services, Amber Wathington-CMPD Youth Diversion,

Members Absent: Janelle Fleck, Jason Tryon, Heather Taraska, Wanda Douglas, Brittney Bagues, David Strickland, Dr. Cotrane Penn, Scott Littlejohn, Denise Steele-Campbell

The meeting was called to order at 4:36 p.m. by the Chair Kevin Poirier. No Quorum was established.

Review and Approval of February 27th, 2020 Agenda:

No Quorum was established.

Review and Approval of January 16th Minutes

No Quorum was established.

Welcome

JCPC Chair Kevin Poirier facilitated introductions of JCPC Council members.

Announcements / Reminders

The attendance requirement is now 65% of all regularly scheduled committee meetings.

The inclusion of special and assigned subcommittee meetings is no longer applicable, its 65% of all regularly schedules meetings. There are no excused absences. Members cannot miss three consecutive regularly scheduled committee meetings. To have action in the subcommittee meetings there must be a quorum to be able to vote.

FY19-20 Mid-Year Monitoring Report- Dr. Catie Clark-Manager, Savita Iyer-Analyst, Criminal Justice Services, Research and Planning Dept. – *Handouts were provided*

The purpose of the monitoring report is to conduct mandated mid-year sites visits of JCPC-Funded programs.

-Provide a quality assurance report and presentation on JCPC-funded programs

-Assess to the best of monitors ability, the fidelity to which the programs are being administered and funds utilized in accordance with each program's agreement with the JCPC.

*Aggregate Service & Budget Statistics

*Monitor Recommendations

JCPC Programs FY2019-2020, Percent of Youth Served by Program**ANALYSIS OF MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES**

Progress made toward measurable objectives by each program were reviewed. Most of the FY2019-2020 JCPC-funded programs are on track to meet or exceed all annual measurable objectives. Overall, 92% of the measurable objectives reviewed met or exceeded their set targets at the time of the mid-year monitoring visits.

JCPC Programs FY2019-2020: Status of Measurable Objectives Program	# of Measurable Objectives¹	% Met or Exceeded
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Thompson DACJJ Short Term Residential Program ²	No terminations to measure	-
Thompson Juvenile Court Assessment	6	83%
D-A-S-H Strengthening Families	9	89%
D-A-S-H Mentoring	6	83%
SHIFT Restitution and Community Service	5	100%
TreSports Positive Action Program	5	100%
CMPD Youthful Offender Diversion Program	5	100%
Total	34	92%

AGGREGATE CASH EXPENDITURES FOR PROGRAMS

Aggregate cash expenditures for each program were analyzed. For the purposes of the monitoring report, the overall budget was considered significantly over- or under-expended if it was +/- 25% of the expected expended rate of 50%. All seven JCPC funded programs were within the expected expenditure range.

Overall, the seven programs expended an average of 49%, or \$683,556.90, of the total amount allocated (\$1,400,183) to all JCPC funded programs as of the time of the monitoring visits in January 2020. Since Thompson DACJJ Short Term Residential Program is funded by both JCPC and Mecklenburg County's Youth and Family Services (YFS) (\$350,000 contribution from each for a total of \$700,000), we included only the portion (\$350,000) that is funded by JCPC for the analysis.

Expenditures for all programs reflect the program budget/expenditures as they existed at the time of the monitoring visit and do not include any budget revisions that have occurred since that time.

Program Enhancement Plans (PEP)

Program Enhancement plan are only provided for continuing programs, it provides a concise format for programs to identify enhancement opportunities, actions steps, and the responsible parties necessary to improve various components of the program's Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) score.

Monitor Recommendations

Invoicing Issues

- *programs regularly submit miscalculated invoices, ineligible receipts and non-itemized invoices
- programs should address these issues by clearly submitting itemized receipts with appropriate breakdown of expenses.

Modifying Program Surveys & Questionnaires

- *many programs utilize survey instruments which include open-ended responses to questions and limited or no questions with predetermined response
- programs should consider limiting these styles of questions as they can impede quality data collection & reporting

Discussions

JCPC Chair Kevin Poirier clarified the measurable objectives as a potential recommendation that the programs have set for themselves and how well they are meeting those goals based on the data that is provided.

The age range of youth are between 10-17yrs. Scott Stoker mentioned in the handouts provided, it provides a running total of the names of the programs, ages ranges served and gender.

Leigh Altman asked if the programs are providing the data & setting the criteria, how is the investigation of quality assessed?

- there was a lack of transitional knowledge from the last monitoring report that was provided due to the changing of staff
- the information is taken from the programs and compared to their program agreement targets
- documentation is provided by the programs regarding all the ways they are tracking the information
- it is not considered a full audit

Scott mentioned that Mecklenburg JCPC at the time was the only county that had an outside agency administered monitoring. The statute requires that the JCPC members monitor their own programs. The Dept of Public Safety provided permission to go outside and have another organization provide the monitoring, under the statute and based on the audit, the JCPC members should be doing their own monitoring, as all other counties have been doing. The measurable objectives are set by the Dept of Public Safety which are set guidelines that are required for all mentoring programs.

*Part of the monitoring process is “are the programs meeting those goals”

*Dept of Public Safety completes audits as well

The monitoring process based on the statute is required every 6 months to make sure the programs are on par and meeting their goals which will affect funding. The JCPC Council should be aware of where the programs stand during the funding decision financially and the numbers of youth being served.

Kevin posed the question what was the monitoring process before the county was involved approximately 5 to 6 yrs. ago?

Scott stated it wasn't good which is the reason why the county stepped in and stated they can do a better job with the analysts on staff, now the report is more detailed & better-quality workmanship, case files are reviewed in order to understand what the programs are doing.

Russell Price stated there is a huge difference as far as the comprehension today, in the past there was not a great deal of expertise in what to look for as far as the budgets and files. There were several different people monitoring different programs.

All the programs have received a copy of the monitoring report to view the list of recommendations.

Conversations ensued from the last meeting around the numbers for the Vocational Program.

DASH-Vocational Program-Alma Moore- Program Coordinator, Angela Reid-Educator Instructor

DASH Vocational provides youth the opportunity to become sustainable citizens through alternative evidence-based community learning. DASH Vocational serves 16-17yrs of age and youth 18-21yrs, who are and have been under auspices of juvenile court counselors. DASH receives Raise the Age referrals from juvenile counselors and other community partners to include youth who will be admitted from Youth Detention Centers.

The youth who are enrolled

- *Have little or no interest in attending school
- *Have learning disabilities
- *Have minimum guidance in home environment
- *Low self esteem
- *No sense of how to survive than to commit crimes

DASH will shadow the youth as they matriculate to receive a certified trade in the area that piques their interest. Youth work towards competency in five core classes. DASH includes biopsychosocial assessments, Myer Briggs assessment and case management services. Certified GED instructors will provide GED classes, DASH assists them to enroll at CPCC-NextGen where they work, learn and obtain a certification. Bus passes, breakfast, lunch, uniforms, tools, books and transportation are provided. Youth receives paid apprenticeship after successfully completing 10-12 wks. of Pre-GED training.

Only 20 students passed all five sections (reading, writing, math, science and social studies) of the HiSet assessment to obtain their high school equivalency diploma while enrolled in a YDC school.

Five of the industries with the highest total amount percent change for 2017-2026 in Mecklenburg County are :

- Specialty Trade Contractors
- Performing Arts, Spector Sports
- Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction
- Amusement, Gambling & Recreation Industries
- Construction of Buildings

DASH Vocational program will stay abreast of current labor market trends & research to ensure career choices will garner apprenticeships and job opportunities.

Discussions:

What is the Alternative Evidence Based Community Learning?

-Nontraditional school, youth are assisted with medical issues, which would include a therapist and MSW worker, permission is granted thru the parents to get eye examinations and address dental concerns.

Who is the clinical staff ?

A facilitator has a LCSW thru Anderson Counseling

What are your apprenticeships ?

The apprenticeships are with trade peoples who have their own businesses that are willing to have the youth shadow them.

How many mentors on staff ?

DASH has 20 mentors from different occupations and backgrounds.

Transportations for youth are provided via bus passes and they are also picked-up. The staff have rotating schedules which allows them to pick up the youth. DASH staff works with the parents to have the youth with learning disabilities get proper testing and support.

Looks like DASH is at 116% of what you had anticipated for this year capacity wise, do you have more need, or do you take a lot on?

DASH informed that the figures are for the Mentoring program not the Vocational program which has just recently started over 2 ½ weeks with the Raise the Age funds in December. The Mentoring program is a yearlong program, 365 days, 144 hours of face to face contact. The number of the youths always come over into the next year. DASH Mentoring also continues to take referrals; a lot of the youth age out. Youths are coming over from the previous year, then they graduate and new youths are brought on continuously. When the monitoring report was completed DASH Mentoring was a little over capacity. The program usually stays at a 100%.

Has the program been pushed out to CMS for the schools that have those students' criteria?

DASH Vocational is familiar with Turning Point Academy which is a redirection program designed to meet the educational needs of at-risk-students. Turning Point Academy is available as an alternative education option for students with long-term or 365-day suspensions and / or as a disciplinary reassignment for students who have committed serious violations of the *Code of Student Conduct*.

Guidelines for Presentation in March

Conversations ensued regarding the length of presentations and questioning, pre-submitted questions for programs to answer.

The RFP closes on March 2nd at 5PM, the Funding Committee led by Jessica Davis will meet to score the RFP's, which will be sent out to JCPC council members to review and the at the March meeting the programs who have scored 9 and above will be invited to present.

Kevin has made the comment, it will be across the board for all programs,

- if a program gets 5 mins to present it won't be unlimited questions for the program,

- it might be 5 mins for the presentation, 10 mins for questioning,

however, it will be consistent across the board, so every program has equal opportunity.

Discussions:

- Would like to adhere to a few questions, because if you ask two questions it can be answered in 10 mins vs two questions in 5 mins, the questions asked will determine how long it takes the programs to answer
- Degrees of questions will vary from program to program
- Will the JCPC board come together to discuss which questions are similar
 - as the RFP's are reviewed, instructions can be sent out as to how to submit questions thru a certain method and questions that arrive in the email inbox will be asked first
- Concerned about the number of questions since we want to have a variety of questions from different people
 - it might be one council member question per program, if we choose to do so,

- or 5 questions per presentation or
- let people submit questions as they review the presentations and then allow for questions that come up in timeframe during the presentation if the questions have not been asked already
- In agreement with the number of questions so everyone has at least 3 questions asked, just in case questions are not submitted for a particular program, so will have some general uniform questions to ask each program

The critical part is to review the RFP before the meeting. The presentation part was added back in as we encourage the JCPC members who are not present to review the RFP's. On March 19th, the programs that meet the minimum score of 9 will present. The selection of the RFP will be on April 23rd meeting which was moved because of spring break being the 3rd Thursday so it was moved to the 4th Thursday. JCPC members will have a week to review RFP's and submit questions.

The meeting minutes from January will be voted on at the next meeting due to no quorum established at the February meeting. Typically, in the past the Monitoring report was approved by voting, due to no quorum it will be postponed until the next meeting.

Committee Reports:

State	55 people attended the informational sessions, 40 agencies attended, 17 applications are in the Dept of Public Safety system, JCPC Program Provider training on April 27-29 th in Hickory which is open to all JCPC members
County	N/A
Marketing Committee	N/A
Monitoring Committee	Vacancy
Risk &Needs Committee	N/A
Funding Committee	March 11 th at 4PM for RFP review, location TBD
Bi-Laws Committee	N/A
Nominating Committee	N/A
Program Support	March 6 th JCPC: "What is Racial Equity" training is at Valerie Woodard Conf Cntr, 8:30-12PM, Rm# 4011, link was sent out
Executive Committee	Meeting on March 5 th , 2020

Meeting ended at 5:35pm.

